

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 1, insert above line 1, insert--Priority Claim

The present application claims priority on European Patent Application 03293322.8 filed December 23, 2003.--

On page 1, above line 1, insert--Field of the Invention--

On page 1, above line 4, insert--Background of the Invention--

Paragraph on line 25 of page 1, ending on line 2 of page 2, has been amended as follows:

-- A problem of the prior art processes is that especially the base oils having a high viscosity often show a haze. This haze makes the process less suitable for some applications. However not all applications for this family of base oils require that a haze should be absent. ~~The object of the present invention is a process to prepare haze free base oils in an efficient manner.--~~

On page 2, above line 3, insert--Summary of the Invention--

Paragraph on line 3 of page 2 has been amended as follows:

~~--The following process achieves this object. Process~~ The invention provides a process to prepare a haze free base oil having a kinematic viscosity at 100 °C of greater than 10 cSt from a Fischer-Tropsch wax feed by performing the following steps,

- (a) reducing the wax content of the feed by contacting the feed with a hydroisomerisation catalyst under hydroisomerisation conditions at a remote location[[],];
- (b) transporting an intermediate product having the reduced wax content as obtained in step (a) from one location to another location[[],]; and
- (c) solvent dewaxing the transported intermediate product to obtain the haze free base oil at the location closer to the end-user.--

On page 2, above line 17, insert--Brief Description of the Drawing

The invention will be further illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1 is a graph illustrating the effect of dewaxing severity on various yields.--

On page 2, above line 17, but after the language above, insert--Detailed Description of the Invention--

Paragraph on line 17 of page 2, ending on line 16 of page 3, has been amended as follows:

--The process according to the invention is advantageous because step (a) is typically performed at a remote location. Thus any low boiling by-products can be advantageously be blended with lower boiling products of the Fischer-Tropsch process at that remote location. Examples of such products are base oils having a lower viscosity and gas oil. A further advantage of this process is that step (c) can be performed at a location more close to the end users. This allows the user of this process to choose the dewaxing technique most suited for the specific application. Thus if a haze free lubricant is required a solvent dewaxing step according to the invention is applied. If on the other hand haze is not a major issue a less selective dewaxing technique can be used. Thus it is not required to have two types of dewaxing technology at the remote location and optimal use can be made of existing dewaxing facilities at the locations more close to the end users. A further advantage is that all of the intermediate product can be efficiently used. Because step (c) is a solvent dewaxing step an oil having the desired viscometric properties and a valuable microcrystalline wax is obtained. Thus all of the intermediate product can be sold as products. In contrast, if a catalytic dewaxing is performed on the intermediate product low boiling by-products would have been obtained which would only have a blending value at the location close to the costumer. This value would be less than the value of these by-products if the dewaxing had been performed at the remote location. A further advantage is that the high quality products such as the a haze free base oil as well as the wax as prepared in step (c) do not have to be transported from the remote location to the end users.--

On page 22, above line 1, insert--We claim:--